

4
ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A-10

Approved For Release 2004/09/28 : CIA-RDP88-01314R000300400008-1
WASHINGTON STAR (GREEN LINE)
27 JUNE 1977

Letters to the editor

We twitch a little, too

In a tongue-in-cheek editorial on May 29, you described the controversy that has arisen over the tutoring done by CIA employees at Ballou High School as "the first bizarre blossom" of the "silly season." A "marvelously silly" episode, you said.

It couldn't have been said any better.

I view with dismay, therefore, Mary McCrory's column of June 19 which quite seriously reports that:

- The CIA "penetrated" the school's community "through a scheme to help students with math and computers;"

- Ballou is located in a neighborhood where it is "widely, if not universally, believed that the people of Langley killed Martin Luther King and the Kennedy brothers;"

- The CIA "used" Ballou students "to help the agency's 'good guy' image."

Again, your editorial provided a better answer than I can:

"Pavlovian squirming," and "a twitch in some minds," you called this sort of thing.

I trust that Ms. McCrory devoted as much effort in "research" for the column as she did in obtaining the name of the CIA's Equal Employment Opportunity director, "Omega Ward."

His real name, of course, is Omega Ware.

Let it be said one last time: The CIA, under guidelines set by the Civil Service Commission and on invitation by Ballou's principal, sent to the school some employees whose skills and knowledge in mathematics and computer sciences could make a contribution to the learning of some young people.

That was all.

Herbert E. Hetu,
Assistant for Public Affairs
to the Director of Central Intelligence
Langley, Va.

(EDITOR'S NOTE — Her real name, of course, is Mary McGrory.)